12. (Unchanged) An apparatus comprising:

a keyboard having a thermally conductive support plate, said support plate having a substantially planar bottom surface;

a flat heat pipe attached to said bottom surface of said keyboard support plate, a heat generating device thermally coupled to said flat heat pipe; and

air moving means for producing an air flow through a housing, at least a portion of said housing being thermally coupled to said flat heat pipe.

13. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said flat heat pipe comprises a plurality of micro-channels that are arranged parallel to one another.

14. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said air moving means comprises a fan.

15. (Twice Amended) [The apparatus of claim 12,] An apparatus comprising:

a keyboard having a thermally conductive support plate, said support plate having a substantially planar bottom surface;

a flat heat pipe attached to said bottom surface of said keyboard support plate, a heat generating device thermally coupled to said flat heat pipe; and

air moving means for producing an air flow through a housing, at least a portion of said housing being thermally coupled to said flat heat pipe, wherein

said housing includes at least one fin disposed in the path of said air flow, said heat pipe thermally coupled to said fin.

16. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising a control circuit for switching said fan on or off in response to a temperature measurement on said keyboard.

17. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising a control circuit for switching said fan on or off in response to a temperature measurement of said heat generating device.

18. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising:

a temperature sensing device attached to said keyboard; and

a controller for receiving a signal from said temperature sensing device, said controller switching said fan on or off in response to said signal.

19. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising:

a temperature sensing device attached to said heat generating device; and

a controller for receiving a signal from said temperature sensing device, said controller switching said fan on or off in response to said signal.

20. (Unchanged) An apparatus comprising:

a keyboard having a thermally conductive support plate, said support plate having a substantially planar bottom surface;

a flat heat pipe attached to said bottom surface of said keyboard support plate, a heat generating device thermally coupled to said flat heat pipe;

a fan for producing air flow through a fan housing; and

a thermally conductive fin located within said air flow, said heat pipe thermally coupled to said fin.

21. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising:

a temperature sensing device attached to said keyboard; and

a controller for receiving a signal from said temperature sensing device, said controller switching said fan on or off in response to said signal.

22. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising:

a temperature sensing device attached to said heat generating device; and

a controller for receiving a signal from said temperature sensing device, said controller switching said fan on or off in response to said signal.

25. (Unchanged) An apparatus comprising:

a keyboard having a thermally conductive support plate, said support plate having a substantially planar bottom surface;

a flat heat pipe attached to said bottom surface of said keyboard support plate, a heat generating device thermally coupled to said flat heat pipe; and

a fan for producing air flow through a fan housing, said fan housing thermally coupled to said flat heat pipe.

26. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said flat heat pipe covers at least about one-half of the surface area of said bottom surface of said keyboard support plate.

27. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said flat heat pipe covers substantially the entire surface area of said bottom surface of said keyboard support plate.

28. (Amended) [The apparatus of claim 25] An apparatus comprising:

a keyboard having a thermally conductive support plate, said support plate having a substantially planar bottom surface;

a flat heat pipe attached to said bottom surface of said keyboard support plate, a heat generating device thermally coupled to said flat heat pipe; and

a fan for producing air flow through a fan housing, said fan housing thermally coupled to said flat heat pipe, wherein said flat heat pipe has a first end and a second end, said heat generating device is thermally coupled to said

flat heat pipe adjacent to said first end, and said fan housing is thermally coupled to said flat heat pipe adjacent said second end.

29. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said flat heat pipe defines an open area sized to accommodate a component of said portable computer.

30. (Amended) [The apparatus of claim 25] An apparatus comprising:

a keyboard having a thermally conductive support plate, said support plate having a substantially planar bottom surface;

a flat heat pipe attached to said bottom surface of said keyboard support plate, a heat generating device thermally coupled to said flat heat pipe; and

a fan for producing air flow through a fan housing, said fan housing thermally coupled to said flat heat pipe, wherein said flat heat pipe includes two metal plates having respective first surfaces joined together and having respective second surfaces, at least one of said metal plates being formed such that a channel is formed between said first surfaces of said metal plates and a protrusion is formed on said second surface of said formed metal plate, said protrusion corresponding to said channel.